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At meeting December 8 with UK, French and German Ambassadors concerning preparations for Western Summit, Secretary made following statement (unnecessary words omitted):

QTE 1. There have been press reports alleging that US will eventually withdraw its forces from Europe.

2. These reports represent totally false conception of how US assesses its long-range security interests and of our commitment to NATO.

3. As long as Soviet threat exists and our collective defense effort continues, American troops will remain an effective part of the military shield in Europe. There will be no rpt no withdrawal.

4. We also believe certain NATO nations have a special obligation to examine their respective contributions.

5. Although we believe that their proportional contributions should be increased, we have never hinted that this would involve US withdrawal. END QTE

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Encl: RA: M Tobin: ldd 12/10/59

Telegraphic transmittal and classification approved by The Secretary

RA - Mr. Fessenden

EUR - Mr. Komer

SOV - Mr. McSweeney

S/S - Mr. Day

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Copies of statement handed to Ambassadors. Publication not rpt not intended but Secretary plans incorporate similar assurances in his principal NATO statement.

Herta (r.m.v.)

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